

Frederick County Ethics Commission
Minutes for the Public Meeting of Monday, January 13, 2014

Present: Harold Otis, Chair
Gwen Romack, Vice-Chair
Brian Duncan, Commission Member
Jesse Goode, Jr., Commission Member
C. Steven Snow, Alternate Commission Member
Linda B. Thall, Senior Assistant County Attorney

Absent: R. Carl Benna, Commission Member

Mr. Otis called to order a meeting of the Frederick County Ethics Commission at 7:00 p.m. on January 13, 2014, in the Winchester Room on the 2nd floor of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

Approval of the August 12, 2013 meeting minutes – A draft of the minutes was emailed to the Commission members before the meeting. Prior to the meeting, Ms. Romack suggested one change to the minutes to reflect the fact that the vote approving her nomination as Vice-Chair was unanimous. There were no additional requests for changes to the minutes.

MOTION: Ms. Romack made a motion to approve the minutes as revised. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Update on communication with Ben Kelkye – In November 2013, the Ethics Commission received an email regarding a County Commissioner's use of the County seal and possible use of County resources to support the Commissioner's initiative to seek a change to a State law. At the Commission's request, the individual was advised that if he wanted to file a complaint he would need to identify which parts of the Ethics Ordinance he believed to have been violated and provide the facts upon which such an allegation was based. Mr. Kelkye has had no further contact with the Ethics Commission.

Decision to meet to perform an administrative function – The Commission members agreed unanimously to conduct an administrative function meeting to discuss a pending complaint and a request for an investigation.

Required information regarding the administrative function meeting – The Commission began its administrative function meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m. on January 13, 2014, in the Winchester Room on the 2nd floor of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701. Present for the meeting were Mr. Otis, Ms. Romack, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Goode, Mr. Snow and Ms. Thall. The Commission members

discussed a pending complaint received on December 10, 2013, and a separate request for an ethics investigation received on January 8, 2014.

Adjournment

The Ethics Commission adjourned its meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.

/s/
Linda B. Thall, Senior Assistant County Attorney